Point of View

Grade 4 Reading Worksheet

Name _____ Date _____

Read the story. Imagine someone else telling it. Circle how the sentence would change.

READ THIS FIRST

The Turtle Mural: Two Tellings

Version 1: Told by Bao

Our class was painting a mural of the ocean on the cafeteria wall. It would stay there all year, so everyone would see it. My job was the sea turtles. I had spent three days on them, and they were finally finished.

On Thursday, I stepped back to look at them. Then I heard a crash. Nadia had knocked over a can of blue paint. She sits next to me in class, and she is always in a hurry. It splashed across the bottom of the wall and covered my best turtle.

I couldn't believe it. "You ruined it!" I said. Nadia didn't even say sorry. She just grabbed a brush and started painting over the splash. I was sure she didn't care about my work at all. I walked away to wash my brushes. I didn't want to watch her make it worse.

Version 2: Told by a Narrator

The class was painting an ocean mural on the cafeteria wall. Bao had worked on his sea turtles for three days. Nadia thought they were the best part of the whole mural.

On Thursday, Nadia reached for a brush, and her elbow bumped the paint can. Blue paint splashed across the bottom of the wall and over Bao's best turtle.

Nadia's face went hot. She wanted to say sorry, but the words stuck in her throat. Then she had an idea. If she painted the splash into waves, the turtle could look like it was swimming through them. She grabbed a brush and started working quickly. She mixed a little white into the blue to make foam.

Bao frowned and went to wash his brushes at the sink. He thought she didn't care at all. He did not know that Nadia was trying to save his turtle.

Ten minutes later, Nadia stepped aside. Bao came back and stared. His turtle now rode a curling blue wave. "Wow," he said quietly. "It looks like it's really swimming."

1. If Version 1 were told in third person, how might "My job was the sea turtles" change?

   Your job was the sea turtles.

   Her job was the sea turtles.

   Bao's job was the sea turtles.

   Our job was the sea turtles.

2. If Version 1 were told in third person, how might "I had spent three days on them, and they were finally finished" change?

- She had spent three days on them, and they were finally finished.
- He had spent three days on them, and they were finally finished.
- We had spent three days on them, and they were finally finished.
- I had spent three days on them, and he was finally finished.

3. If Version 1 were told in third person, how might "I was sure she didn't care about my work at all" change?

- He was sure she didn't care about my work at all.
- I was sure he didn't care about her work at all.
- He was sure she didn't care about his work at all.
- She was sure he didn't care about his work at all.

4. If Version 1 were told in third person, how might "I walked away to wash my brushes" change?

- Bao walked away to wash his brushes.
- Nadia walked away to wash his brushes.
- I walked away to wash his brushes.
- Bao walked away to wash my brushes.

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Answer Key - Grade 4 Reading Worksheet

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I had spent three days on them, and he was finally finished.

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Bao walked away to wash his brushes.

Nadia walked away to wash his brushes.

I walked away to wash his brushes.

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